

Helena JSEC Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2013

Members Present:

Alan Thompson	Helena College University of Montana
Andy Sabatini	Residence Inn/Hampton Inn
Callie Johnson	BCBS of Montana
Cathy Wood	Student Assistance Foundation
Chris Beebe	Shodair Children's Hospital
Darlene Chamberlin	Helena High School
Dave Laber	Helena Job Service
Deb Chouinard	Helena Job Service
Sandy Hamlin	Helena Job Service
Tom Antonick	Office of Public Instruction

Guest: Pam Watson, MSEC Coordinator

Introductions: Members present introduced themselves and their company.

January Minutes: Cathy asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes, and called for a vote to approve. Darlene motioned to approve the minutes and Chris made a second. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Report: Darlene reported the JSEC bank account has \$6,012.11 including the last deposit from Business over Breakfast.

MSEC: Sandy introduced Pam Watson, MSEC (Montana State Employers' Council) Coordinator, from the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). MSEC is the state equivalent of JSEC. In the past, many of us have had questions about MSEC and what its association to JSEC is, so Sandy invited Pam to come and share with our local JSEC. Pam has been the MSEC Coordinator for about 2 years now. She stated that there are 15 active JSECs throughout the state. JSEC Chairs, or a member of the local JSEC, serve on the MSEC Board. The Board has a meeting once a year. Since Pam has been MSEC Coordinator, the Board has been working on rebuilding the relationship between the MSEC and JSEC Committees, and the relationship between MSEC and DLI. Coordinated training is one of the items they have been putting a lot of effort into. For instance, if one of the JSECs brings in a good speaker, that information can be available to other JSECs, or they can even share the speaker for cost effectiveness, especially regionally. MSEC membership also includes a representative from each of the 5 Job Service Workforce Areas that were established several years ago. Anna Kazmierowski from the Helena JSEC is the Area Rep for Region 2, which includes Helena.

Pam gave us a rundown of the history of JSEC. In the 70's, the Federal Department of Labor provided money to the states to form the JSECs. A decision was made that there was a need for closer relationships and partnerships between Job Service Offices and businesses. In the 90's, CMTs (Community Management Teams) and One-Stops came into being under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) to incorporate additional partnerships through Job Service One Stops (partnerships with several different agencies, such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Public Health and Human Services). Today, some communities have only CMTs that fill that need. Others have both CMTs and JSECs. Unlike in the beginning, there is no longer any funding for the JSECs. Each committee funds themselves.

MSEC has no funding either except for what they've raised from past conferences, and silent auctions at the MSEC and Job Service Manager's Meetings. This year the MSEC/Manager's Meeting will be held in Missoula on May 1st and 2nd. All JSEC members are welcome to come for training, which will be at no charge to them. The local JSEC Chair's (or member representative) expenses to attend the MSEC conference will be covered (mileage, per diem, hotel) by DLI.

Pam said from a Department of Labor perspective, it is a great benefit to have JSECs as a partner. Business and education are very important partners for getting grants that the Department applies for that bring training dollars to our state. These grant funds help workers prepare for jobs that businesses are trying to fill. In addition, DLI needs to know what is happening with businesses in communities across Montana so they can tailor their services to best meet the needs of businesses. The Department of Labor and Industry works hard to provide services that are relevant and valuable to business, and this is one key way to learn what businesses need. JSECs also play an essential part in testifying for the legislature on behalf of the Job Service Offices.

MSEC has a State Scholarship award that JSEC can submit their local scholarship winners to. MSEC is also working on a State Employer Award that local employer winners can be submitted to. Each Employer Award would still be tailored to the local community, but this is another way to share accomplishments. There are also awards for:

- Outstanding Local JSEC Committee
- Outstanding Local JSEC Chairperson
- Outstanding Local Job Service Manager
- Outstanding Local JSEC Coordinator
- Spark Plug Award

These awards are presented at the MSEC/Manager's Meeting each spring; this year on May 2nd. For additional detail on some of these events and awards, please see MSEC's web page at: <http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/msec/default.asp>.

Manager's Report: Deb is a member of the MBAC (Montana Business Assistance Connection) Board of Directors, and recently attended their meeting. They had a presentation from Missoula's Cost Care Health Group, which is a low cost, general health care group. They will be locating to Helena the first week of May, near Wal-Mart.

Trends at the Helena Job Service recently include right around 250 people through our doors a day, some days considerably more. We have close to 6,000 registered, but that varies day to day. Clients must have some service from us every 90 days or they go inactive. Deb says right now we are running 300-325 job orders a day. We show 2,300 with a high school diploma, but that number depends on how complete their registration is. Job Service staff contacts people who register within a couple of weeks to thank them for registering and let them know if their registration is incomplete.

Once again, Helena Job Service will be offering resume classes prior to the Career Fair on March 20th. Dates for those classes are as follows:

- Tuesday 3/12 @ 3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 3/13 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Friday 3/15 @ 12:00 noon
- Monday 3/18 @ 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday staff will keep their calendars clear to allow time for resume reviews.

We have offered to make up to 20 free copies of their resumes to take to the Career Fair. Job Service will also have a booth at the fair.

Rapid Response for Associated Foods has been completed. There are employers who have shown an interest in hiring some of the workers laid off from there.

Our conference rooms have had an Increase in use. They are being reserved for job fairs and interviews, as well as other meetings.

March Meeting: Sandy stated that our March JSEC meeting is the same day as the Career Fair. We need to decide if we want it the next week, March 27th, or the day after or before the 20th. She will send out an e-mail to get the best date so that members have a chance to check their calendars.

Hidden Agenda: Sandy highlighted the packet material given to members for this meeting. Included were a 'new member list', the JSEC informational flyer, (which can be used as a recruitment document for those interested in joining JSEC), and a flyer on the 'Astra Women's Business Alliance Forum' that Anna requested be shared with JSEC.

Dave gave a short explanation of the new FMLA poster. New FMLA rules came out after the 5-in-1 employment posters were printed. This one sheet poster can be placed over the current FMLA language or posted next to it for those businesses that qualify for FMLA.

Darlene asked how the Mike Bullock Memorial Scholarship was progressing. Sandy stated that it's on Job Service's webpage and their Facebook. The material has been e-mailed to all of the school counselors in the Helena area, as well as Shodair. Sandy said that generally she doesn't see anything until the last week. She will check to see if students can do the application electronically but thinks they must print and submit a paper copy. It was decided to send the school counselors a reminder that the Scholarship is due March 1st. Alan said he saw it on the schools' websites. According to Darlene, students do check out these scholarships on a regular basis. Darlene will put a reminder in the Helena High newsletter. Tom said that the deadline was changed to March 1st so it would be easier to make the state MSEC scholarship deadline of April 1st. The application process now opens earlier, and closes earlier. Tom mentioned concerns about the compatibility of our local scholarship with the MSEC scholarship. Pam said this is the exact thing that JSECs should bring to their attention. She says we could send MSEC a recommendation on scoring, and they would be willing to look at that. Chris wondered if we were required to submit our winner for the MSEC scholarship. Instead of the local winner, couldn't we submit another applicant to MSEC that would meet their criteria? Pam said it has to be the winner of the local scholarship. (Mike Bullock Scholarship committee consists of Tom, Cathy, and Alan).

Sandy inquired if the members wanted to hear from a particular speaker next month. Tom suggested Unemployment Insurance, the employee side. All agreed this would be interesting. Sandy will arrange for that.

No more business. Meeting was adjourned.